



# Shrewsbury Public Schools

Mary Beth Banios  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

To: School Committee  
From: Mary Beth Banios  
Re: Individual Music Lesson Fee  
Date: June 9, 2016

As you are aware, the district offers a fee-based individual music lesson program to its students in grades 4-12. In reviewing the market compensation for instructors that are hired to teach these lessons, the Shrewsbury pay rate is coming in slightly lower than market and is having an impact on retention of instructors. Four of our instructors left just before lessons started in 2015 to work in other locations, or to take our students to their private studios where they charged more.

In response to this situation, an increase of \$2 per lesson is recommended. As lessons are purchased in packets of 14, this would mean a \$28 increase to the packet/semester rate. The \$2 per lesson increase would enable the instructor's compensation to move from \$23 to \$25 per hour.

	15-16 Lesson Fee	Proposed 16-17 Lesson Fee
30 minute lessons	\$27 per lesson/\$378 per semester	\$29 per lesson/\$406 per semester
45 minute lessons	\$40 per lesson/\$560 per semester	\$42 per lesson/\$588 per semester
60 minute lessons	\$53 per lesson/\$742 per semester	\$55 per lesson/\$770 per semester

With the proposed increase, our lesson program would remain very competitively priced. Please see below for a breakdown of lesson costs from area providers of individual music lessons. The 30-minute lesson is used as a point of comparison as this is the lesson type accessed by the majority of our students.

Lesson Provider	Cost of 30 minute individual lesson
Royal Academy of Music Shrewsbury, MA	\$30 per lesson
Pakachoag School of Music Auburn, MA	\$33 per lesson
David French Music Westborough, MA	\$30 per lesson